



## **KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ADVISORY GROUP TOPIC SUMMARY**

**ADVISORY GROUP:** Local Superintendents Advisory Council (LSAC)

**MEETING DATE:** November 24, 2020

**Agenda Item:** Amendment to 703 KAR 5:280, School Improvement Procedures (*Second Reading*)

**Presenter:** Kelly Foster

**Summary of Discussion:**

Dr. Foster discussed amendments to this regulation, which reflect changes made during the most recent legislative session. Specifically, the Kentucky General Assembly passed Senate Bill (SB) 158 (2020) to further refine Kentucky's implementation of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, particularly as it relates to the identification of schools for targeted support and improvement. Additionally, SB 158 (2020) moves the identification of comprehensive support and improvement comprehensive support and improvement (CSI) schools to every three years beginning with the 2021-2022 school year; requires all newly identified CSI schools receive an audit conducted by the KDE; permits the appeal of "any judgment made by the department...of a principal, superintendent, school, or school district which it considers grossly unfair;" and, mandates turnaround efforts in CSI schools be led by an entity on the KBE's "approved turnaround vendor list," which is newly defined in the bill and may include teams staffed by the KDE.

Chair Bobrowski asked if the standards for principals in the regulation would be addressed in the process. Dr. Foster indicated that through the diagnostic review process those standards would be applied and recommendations related to principals would be spelled out in the diagnostic review report to assist superintendents as they work with their principals.

**Action Taken:**

There were no questions. A motion for approval was made by Supt. David Raleigh with a second by Supt. Danny Adkins. The regulation was approved by LSAC with a unanimous vote.

**Follow-up Required:**

None at this time. This will now go before the KBE at its December 2, 2020, meeting as an action/consent item.

**Agenda Item:** Amendment to 707 KAR 1:340, Procedural Safeguards (*Second Reading*)

**Presenter: Gretta Hylton and Todd Allen**

**Summary of Discussion:**

Associate Commissioner Gretta Hylton and Todd Allen provided an overview of the proposed amendments to Sections 3, 4 and 18 of the regulation. The proposed amendment to Section 18 is to delete this section. Questions and concerns were cited by LSAC members around section 3 and 4 of the regulation.

**Action Taken:**

Danny Adkins had a motion to table 707 KAR 1:340 until further clarification is brought to LSAC members about section 3 and 4. The motion was second by Kirk Biggerstaff. The motion was then tabled unanimously by roll call vote.

**Follow-up Required:**

Associate Commissioner Gretta Hylton will write a briefing that outlines the claims raised about The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) notices.

**Agenda Item: Amendment to 702 KAR 5:080, Bus Drivers' Qualifications (*First Reading*)**

**Presenters: Robin Kinney, Matt Ross and Elisa Hanley**

**Summary of Discussion:** Staff presented an overview of the regulation and discussed the necessity for the amendment. This regulation was recently amended. Upon becoming effective, KDE was notified by the Kentucky School Boards Association of some problematic and unintended language. This amendment resulted from a review by the Office of Finance and Administration and the Office of Legal Services and corrects the problematic language.

**Action Taken:** The regulation was unanimously approved.

**Follow-up Required:** None.

**Agenda Item: Amendment to 703 KAR 5:270, Kentucky's Accountability System (*First Reading*)**

**Presenters: Rhonda Sims and Jennifer Stafford**

**Summary of Discussion:**

Rhonda Sims and Jennifer Stafford from the Office of Assessment and Accountability (OAA), led the discussion on changes to accountability from Senate Bill 158 (2020) and amendments to 703 KAR 5:270, *Kentucky's accountability system*. New recommendations to be included in the regulation were discussed with LSAC members and will be taken to the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) in December. Discussion and changes to the regulation included:

- Alignment of language and requirements of SB 158 (2020);
- Alignment of language in the regulation to process dual credit data collection for academic and career readiness;
- Recommendations to KBE based on guidance and discussion from the November 6 Special KBE meeting on the following:
  - Status and change indicators
  - Weights and combining performance

- English learner progress indicator with flexibilities
- Minimum-n count; and
- Connection of reporting requirements in Section 5 to Kentucky's Consolidated State Plan.

As discussion occurred on the above topics, the several questions were asked and suggestions made that included:

During the discussion on the colored 5 x 5 tables, Superintendent Bobrowski expressed concern regarding unexpected outcomes for rural and inner-city schools on reaching the highest indicator rating.

Superintendent Mitchell asked if there had been any discussion on the ability of a very low performing school who had significant growth in one year to reach a higher performing color such as green or blue.

On the Overall Accountability Weights, Superintendent Bobrowski feels that more weight should be added to the Postsecondary Readiness indicator since high schools focus heavily on this indicator.

Superintendents Raleigh and Cochran expressed concern regarding the weights assigned for the State Assessment Results for Science, Social Studies and Writing. They feel that the frequency of testing should be considered when determining overall weights. These areas are only tested once per grade span.

Superintendent Cox recommended that an Opportunity and Access measure be reconsidered for the accountability system. He believes that this measure should be a "showcase" of what's happening in Kentucky schools and would improve morale. He stated that if added, the weight assigned to the Quality of School Climate and Safety indicator could be increased.

Within the English Learner Progress indicator, Superintendent Bobrowski expressed concern regarding students who are transient. He feels that this should be another factor in accountability. He also suggested the 100-day rule of inclusion of students in accountability should be reviewed.

Superintendent Burchett thanked the KDE and OAA staff for exploring possibilities and making a new recommendation for minimum-n count. He believes the recommended minimum n-count of 30 students per school is much better than what we have in the current system.

At the end of the presentation and discussion on the recommendations, the LSAC members requested more time to review the regulation and to gather input from their colleagues. The members also voiced concern regarding the removal of the second reading of regulations with the KBE.

#### **Action Taken:**

A motion was made and the request to table the regulation and hold a special LSAC meeting on December 1, 2020 was voted on and passed.

#### **Follow-up Required:**

There will be a Special LSAC meeting on Tuesday, December 1, 2020, at 9:30 a.m., to discuss amendments to the accountability regulation and recommendations in further detail.

**Agenda Item: New Regulation 704 KAR 8:110, Kentucky Academic Standards (KAS) for World Language (*First Reading*)**

**Presenters: Krista Hall, Thomas Clouse and Erin Chavez**

**Summary of Discussion:**

KRS 158.6453(18)(a) calls for the Kentucky Department of Education to implement a comprehensive process for reviewing and revising the academic standards in visual and performing arts and practical living skills and career studies for all levels and in foreign language for middle and high schools, beginning in fiscal year 2017-2018, and every six (6) years thereafter. The department also must develop review committees for the standards for each of the content areas that include representation from certified specialist public school teachers and postsecondary teachers in those subject areas. (18)(c) further establishes that the department shall provide to middle and high schools guidelines for including a foreign language program.

Academic standards for a world language course or program are not currently in Kentucky law. As part of the standards revision process outlined in KRS 158.6453(2), the KDE began the development process for the world language standards in January 2020. The standards outline what students are expected to know and do within a course or program to successfully transition to the next level of learning, not how they are taught. The curriculum or methods and instructional resources used to teach the standards is decided at the local level, specifically with each school-based decision making council, pursuant to KRS 160.345.

This administrative regulation incorporates by reference the *Kentucky Academic Standards for World Language* (December 2020), which contains the academic content standards of world language for use in Kentucky's common schools. Public schools offering a world language course or program shall meet the minimum content requirements established in the *Kentucky Academic Standards for World Language*.

LSAC had no questions or concerns.

**Action Taken:**

A motion was made to approve the regulation without changes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Follow-up Required:**

None.

**Agenda Item: Waiver of KY Tech Policy 08.5, Flagging Programs and Student/Teacher Ratios**

**Presenters: David Horseman and Leslie Slaughter**

**Summary of Discussion:**

Associate Commissioner Horseman provided a rationale for the waiver request, citing current low enrollments due to the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. No questions or concerns were noted by LSAC members.

**Action Taken:**

A motion for approval of the waiver request was made by Superintendent Harry Burchett and seconded by Superintendent Danny Atkins. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

**Follow-up Required:**

N/A